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Establishment of co-operative societies for Muslims in Salem and other districts.

* 648 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of co-operative credit societies and banks in the districts of Coimbatore, Salem, South Arcot and the Nilgiris;

(b) the number of such co-operative credit societies and banks exclusively established by and intended for Muslims in those districts;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Registrar of Co-operative Societies recently refused to register a Provincial Co-operative Muslim Bank at Udamalpet, Coimbatore district;

(d) if so, why the application of the Muslim gentleman from Udamalpet was rejected; and whether the Government will place the correspondence on the table;

(e) what steps have been taken hitherto by the Government and the Co-operative Department to spread and popularize the co-operative movement among the Muslim community of this province and particularly in the abovesaid districts;

(f) whether the Government have given effect to the recommendations of the recent Townshend Committee on Co-operation; and

(g) if not, when they propose to give effect to the said report and what are the reasons for the delay?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have no information but have called for a report.

(e) The Government have not taken any special steps to spread and popularize the co-operative movement among the Muslim community or any other particular community. The Co-operative department addresses its propaganda to agriculturists, artisans and persons of limited means irrespective of the caste or community to which they belong.

(f) & (g) The report is under the consideration of Government.

Proposed starting of a mortgage bank at Kurnool.

* 649 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state what action Government have taken on the proposals to start a land mortgage bank at Kurnool? 11-30 a.m.

A.—A careful investigation indicated that no reasonable prospects for the successful working of such a bank in Kurnool existed at present.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state in a brief manner what exactly the conditions in the district were which made the Government believe that 'no reasonable prospects for the successful working of such a bank in Kurnool district existed at present?'"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Every attempt is being made to start land mortgage banks in every district but it is very difficult to get properly trained men to work such banks. As it is, we are in need of properly trained men to work the land mortgage banks."

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Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" Does the hon. Minister think that land mortgage banks in other districts are not working satisfactorily ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" The Government thought that so far as Kurnool district was concerned it was not in a fit state for starting land mortgage banks."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" Was any attempt made to get honorary workers ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" I think the hon. Member will find in the report of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies that an attempt was made to get honorary workers but it did not prove successful."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know whether the hon. the Minister is prepared to place on the table of this House the report of the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" I shall consider it."

Publication of the evidence before the Committee on Co-operation.

* 650 Q.—Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the expenses incurred in connexion with the Committee on Co-operation ;

(b) the amount, if any, spent in excess of the original allotment ;

(c) the number of copies of the report of the Committee printed and the cost thereof ;

(d) whether the Government have ascertained from the Superintendent of the Government Press the probable cost of printing copies of the evidence equal in number to the copies of the report printed ;

(e) whether it is a fact that the evidence given or tendered before the Malabar Tenancy Committee, the Unemployment Committee and the Tamil University Committee has been printed and copies made available to the public ; and

(f) whether the Government have considered or propose to consider the question of publishing the evidence, written and oral, tendered or given before the Committee and whether they have arrived at a decision ?

A.—(a) Rs. 73,725–8–0.
(b) Rs. 18,725–8–0.
(c) 2,000 ; Rs. 957–1–0.
(d) No.
(e) Yes.
(f) The Government have asked the Registrar of Co-operative Societies to prepare and forward typed copies of the evidence, written and oral. On receipt, the copies will be placed in the Legislative Council Library.

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Will the Government be pleased to get the information referred to in clause (d) of the question ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" The information is available. It would cost Rs. 6,000 and odd."